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"YOUR PARTICIPATION IN OUR FIVE-YEAR PLANS TO MAKE THEM A ONE HUNDRED PER CENT SUCCESS"

by

General K M CARIAPPA (Retd)

1966

THE remaining period of the 3rd Five-Year Plan and the 4th which is to follow it soon and the others yet to come will produce the dividends the Nation expects from them—

IF

the four hundred and fifty millions and over, of us in our country who are one and all, members of our great team of nation-builders are loyal participants in this work, each contributing our mite as true Indians at all times to make these Plans a success—100%. Let us not under-estimate our own ability to achieve our aim. We can do it. Now, what is required of us all to achieve this aim.

FROM THE GOVERNMENTS—CENTRAL AND STATES

1. Clear cut directives on policies and plans to Ministers, Secretaries and Heads of departments, assigning to them their duties at their respective levels and decentralise responsibilities, trust them and if they let you down sack them.
2. Saving money by cutting down considerably the frequent official visits abroad by our Government representatives, individuals and/or delegations. There are far too many of these now. Our Diplomatic missions abroad should be able to do most of the work which some Ministers and delegations go out to do now.
3. Controlling allocations of funds to non-official organisations doing voluntary social work—and keeping a close check on expenditure from such allotments.

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9. Be very prompt and ruthless in punishing any one—no matter what office he may hold—in proved cases of corruption, inefficiency and disloyalty.
10. Please do not let party-interests, in any way influence the impartial and strict implementation of Five Year Plans.
11. Please win the faith and co-operation of the masses by concentrating on the essential needs of the common man and provide them, and NOT have too many "reforms" all at the same time.
12. Please do not encourage Emotional & Sentimental "Slogans" to subordinate the drive for hard work everywhere.
13. No more money to be wasted on putting up 'Statues' until after all the "slum areas" in the country have been cleared and cleared up. There are far too many of these latter today.
14. Please cut out public holidays when V.I.Ps. die. Millions of man hours are lost to the country by these holidays.

FROM THE POLITICIAN

1. Honesty, selflessness, high standard of moral integrity, dedicated service to fellow beings. Use your authority to work for the good of the community as a whole and not to pile up your personal wealth—nor to look after the interest of your own kith and kin, your own caste of people and flatterers, as some seem to do.
2. Please do not interfere with the work of the administrators such as the police, revenue officers, doctors, educationalists and so on. Leave them alone. The Ministers concerned will see to their work being done well.
3. Please do not waste money on lavish entertainments, pomp and show at your political meetings—periodical or annual—and on "receptions" to our country's V.I.Ps, and on celebration of birthdays of eminent fellow politicians.

4. Go to the villages and discuss the plan with the people and not merely address large numbers of people over "loud-speakers." Make the people feel that it is their plan and that they are in it too. Frequent visits to villages and explaining and discussing the Five-Year Plan with small audiences is more personal and so more effective.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATORS

1. Know the details of the Five-Year Plan thoroughly and tell the public whose interest and welfare you are to look after, clearly and precisely what is being done for them and what is required of them;
2. Prompt help to the public in providing sanctioned funds, materials and equipment fertilizer, seeds and so on.
3. More personal contact with the people, by reducing the time now being spent on conferences and in the office chairs;
4. Prompt and impartial disposal of all cases and cut out "red-tape".
5. Be gentle and courteous but firm, in dealing with the public, preserving your personal dignity and correctness of office;
6. Be scrupulously honest in spending every paisa of public money.
7. Not to use Government transport, Government equipment and other Government facilities for personal use without proper authority.
8. Duty first—then your personal comforts and leisure. Exercise fruitful personal supervision on all developmental work being done in your area.
9. Show no favours to any one. Make no promises which you cannot keep.
10. Win the confidence and so the spontaneous respect of the public by being honest, correct, efficient and impartial in every thing you do.
11. Save money on stationery, postage and sealing wax.

4. Stop building luxurious offices-air conditioned and all that and official living quarters; until the essential buildings for Class III and Class IV staff have been provided. Millions of our people have no roofs over their heads yet.
5. Cut down the number of the too frequent high level conferences and seminars all over the country and so save money and time.
6. Prevent administration from becoming "top-heavy" by keeping down numbers of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Officers and Staff and their paraphernalia—Quality is what the need of the hour is and not mere numbers.
7. Would Ministers please direct :—
 - (a) that only such officers as are required to meet them and not a whole mass of them hanging around for hours whenever they (the Ministers) go on tours—thus neglecting their (these officers') duties;
 - (b) that officers at the district and divisional levels are NOT too frequently called up to attend conferences, meetings, discussions, etc., from their local headquarters. These conferences, etc., are of course necessary but can they not be kept down to say at the most one a month, except in urgent cases; Too many of these do definitely interfere with their day-to-day work considerably—local administration suffers badly—this applies equally to the frequent conferences in Secretariats.
8. Education :

Please have a definite education policy, for all India laid down—at least for the next ten years. Select only well-qualified people to teach and please, pay them well. The best are not coming to the education service as the pay offered is deplorably low. Please allot adequate funds for all educational projects. Please do NOT let politics and political interference enter into the "Education field".

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